AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-2. (Cancelled)

Claim 3. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 6 comprising:

- exposing prominin-1 or nucleic acids encoding prominin-1 to at least one molecule whose ability to reduce the number of blood vessels during maintenance and progression of a state of disease~~suppress or prevent pathological angiogenesis~~ is sought to be determined;
- determining binding or hybridizing of said molecule(s) to prominin-1 or nucleic acids encoding prominin-1, and
- monitoring a reduction in the number of blood vessels during maintenance and progression of a state of disease~~said pathological angiogenesis~~ when administering said molecules.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein determination is by binding of prominin-1 to the molecule, and wherein the binding is by immunoassay.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein prominin-1 is exposed to the molecule and wherein either the prominin-1 or the molecule are immobilized.

Claim 6. (Currently amended) A method of screening for molecules for the treatment of pathological angiogenesis comprising:

identifying molecules that inhibit the expression and/or activity of prominin-1; and

monitoring a reduction in the number of blood vessels during maintenance and progression of a state of disease~~said pathological angiogenesis~~ when administering said molecules.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 6, wherein the molecules are identified by:

providing a mammalian knock-out model that does not express prominin-1;

administering a molecule to be tested to the knock-out model;

~~comparing the effects of the molecule~~measuring formation and growth of blood vessels during maintenance or progression of a state of disease in the knock-out model

compared to formation and growth of blood vessels during maintenance or progression of a state of diseaseeffects of the molecule in a corresponding normal subject; and

identifying molecules that have a different effect in the knock-out model compared to the normal subject.

Claim 8. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein the mammal is a mouse.

Claim 9. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 7, further comprising simulating a disease condition or injury in the mammalian knock-out model and in the normal subject.

Claim 10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the simulated disease condition or injury comprises pathological blood vessel formation.

Claim 11. (Cancelled)